

## **H.R. 3179 – Local Preparedness Acquisition Act**

### **Floor Situation**

H.R. 3179 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Edolphus Towns (D-NY) on July 25, 2007. The bill was ordered to be reported from the Oversight and Government Reform Committee, by voice vote, on November 8, 2007.

H.R. 3179 is expected to be considered on the floor on December 17, 2007.

### **Background**

According to the Government Services Agency (GSA), the "schedules program" allows the GSA to "establish long-term government -wide contracts with commercial firms to provide access to over 10 million commercial supplies and services that can be ordered directly from GSA Schedule contractors.

Under current law, state and local governments have access to Federal supply schedules for automated data processing equipment (including firmware), software, supplies, support equipment, and services.

Access to Federal supply schedules allow state and local governments to make purchases at discount pricing. This discount pricing is only provided to customers of the GSA, which have access to the Federal supply schedules.

According to the Congressional Budget Office, the GSA charges a 0.75% fee on all sales in order to recover the procurement and administrative costs of the program.

### **Summary**

H.R. 3179 would provide authority to the Administrator of the GSA to allow state and local governments to have access to Federal supply schedules for alarm and signal systems, facility management systems, firefighting and rescue equipment, law enforcement and security equipment, marine craft and related equipment, special purpose clothing, and related services.

### **Cost**

According to the Congressional Budget Office, "CBO estimates that increasing the number of purchases would increase offsetting collections by about \$2 million a year. Because such fees are spent by GSA, the net budgetary impact of the bill would be negligible.

**Staff Contact**

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